

Approved For Release 2003/07/31 : CIA-RDP80R01443R000200290005-5

25X1

*INDOCHINA.*

25X1

NSA review completed

Approved For Release 2003/07/31 : CIA-RDP80R01443R000200290005-5

25X1

NSC BRIEFING

20 May 1954

INDOCHINA

I. Danger to Laos and Cambodia

A. Nervous atmosphere both  
Cambodia and Laos, awaiting  
Viet Minh next move.

1. Laos government plans

UN appeal if new

invasion in force.

*(NOW SOME 6,000 VIET MINH REGULARS IN LAOS)*

2. Laos regulars total

only 20,000. Incapable  
repulsing heavy invasion,  
would need substantial  
additional French  
reinforcement -- to  
about 10,000 French  
Union regulars already  
there.

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/07/31 : CIA-RDP80R01443R000200290005-5

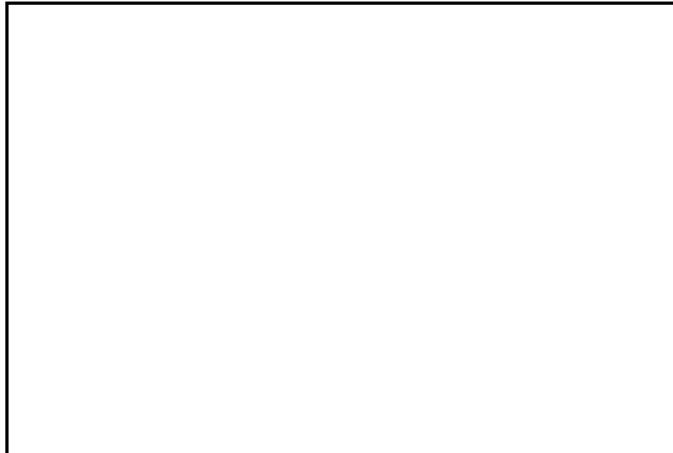
Approved For Release 2003/07/31 : CIA-RDP80R01443R000200290005-5

25X1

C. However, if French command in Tonkin delta can develop any spirit and capability, Viet Minh military threat to Laos, Cambodia can be checked by attack supply lines. Thus delta still #1 target.

## II. Delta

A.



25X1

B. French believe Viet Minh will not make major delta attack this summer unless necessary on basis political factors or to capitalize on low French Union morale.

25X1

C. In absence such decision, French expect Viet Minh will:

1. Expand delta harassment.
2. Regroup regulars for major effort in autumn.

D. In delta this week, most significant Viet Minh action was regiment-strength attack near Phu Ly (60 miles south Hanoi).

1. French counterattack successful.
2. Losses both sides "heavy."